



State Board of Equalization
News Release
Vice Chair Michelle Steel
3rd District – Rolling Hills Estates

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 5, 2012

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Michelle Steel Statement on the Governor's Proposed Budget

Michelle Steel, Vice Chair of the Board of Equalization, made the following statement regarding Governor Jerry Brown's proposed budget today:

“Governor Brown announced that his new budget includes \$6.9 billion in estimated revenue that doesn't exist. He plans to raise it by asking Californians to raise their own taxes in November. That fantasy funding guarantees another year of failed budgeting and extreme trigger cuts.

“We already have some of the highest taxes in the country – the highest sales tax and the fourth-highest income tax. The last time a Governor asked voters to raise sales and income taxes two-thirds said ‘No.’ I have no doubt that they will say no again.

“These tax increases will do nothing to address the state's chronic overspending, or to reform debt-ridden programs. If they pass, the tax increases will take money out of the free market – out of the hands of those who earned it – and allow the government to keep overspending. The tax increases will be used as cover to avert further, necessary, reform. But they won't stop the pain that comes from a chronic failure to live within our means.”

Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves the nearly 9 million residents of the Third District as Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate.

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